



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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PSC MODIFIES HEARING SCHEDULE IN LACLEDE GAS COMPANY RATE CASE

Jefferson City (March 22, 2002)---The Missouri Public Service Commission has modified the hearing schedule in a natural gas rate case filed by Laclede Gas Company. The modification results from a recommendation made by parties in this rate case.

Formal evidentiary hearings will be held August 26, 2002 through August 30, 2002; and September 4, 2002 through September 6, 2002. These hearings will be held in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City. The Governor Office Building meets accessibility standards required by the Americans With Disabilities Act. If any person needs additional accommodations to participate in the hearing, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or 1-800-829-7541 (TDD) prior to the hearing.

Hearings in this case were originally scheduled for August 12, 2002 through August 16, 2002; August 19, 2002 through August 23, 2002; and August 26, 2002 through August 30, 2002.

The Public Service Commission will hold local public hearings to receive customer comment on the rate case proposal. That schedule will be set at a later date.

On January 25, 2002, Laclede Gas Company filed a \$36 million natural gas rate case with the Missouri Public Service Commission. For the average residential customer using natural gas for heating, the proposed increase would be approximately \$4.40 a month.

This rate case request represents Laclede's non-gas costs. Non-gas costs are operating and maintenance expenses and a return on investment in plant (such as natural gas mains and service lines that carry natural gas to the customer's home or business). The Missouri Public Service Commission does not regulate gas costs or the rates that are charged to Laclede Gas Company for natural gas by wholesale suppliers. The Commission does perform a regulatory review to ensure that regulated natural gas companies such as Laclede Gas Company make prudent decisions in securing natural gas supplies for their customers.

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